



RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116-
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2767

In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Serial Number: 09/081,872
Appn. Filed: 05/20/98
Applicant(s): John H. Messing
Appn. Title: Electronic Signature Program
Examiner: Douglas J. Meislahn
Group Art Unit: 2767

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Tucson, Arizona

Amendment D

(Amendment under Rule 116)

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Technology Center 2100

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, District of Columbia 20231

Sir:

This is a response to the Office Action mailed June 20, 2002. Please allow amendment of the above application and allow the claims as follows:

Specification: Applicant believes in light of a question raised by the Examiner that a sentence of the specification contained in a previous amendment may be confusing without further elaboration, and has added a clause to it. Applicant requests the specification (as amended earlier by the substitute specification dated December 28, 2000) be further amended as follows.

The amendment C of December 26, 2001, p. 2, lines 13-15, formulated an amendment to the proposed specification as follows:

"P. 10, l. 13, after "cipher" insert – This symmetric encryption cipher embodiment differs from the preferred embodiment, in that in the latter, a message digesting function or asymmetric key pair is used for the signature and verification functions.—"